United Nations S/2007/263

Security Council

Distr.: General
8 May 2007

Original: English

Letter dated 3 May 2007 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that, following consultations, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Alpha Oumar Konaré, and I have decided to nominate Rodolphe Adada of the Republic of the Congo as the Joint African Union-United Nations Special Representative for Darfur. In accordance with the 16 November 2006 high-level meeting on the situation in Darfur held in Addis Ababa, whose conclusions were endorsed by the 30 November 2006 Summit-level meeting of the African Union Peace and Security Council as well as in the statement of the President of the United Nations Security Council on 19 December 2006 (S/PRST/2006/55), the Special Representative for Darfur will head the African Union-United Nations peacekeeping mission in Darfur.

Acting on behalf of the Secretary-General and the African Union Commission Chairperson, the Special Representative will have overall authority over this peacekeeping mission, oversee the implementation of its mandate, and be responsible for the mission's management and functioning.

Mr. Adada's distinguished career includes his service since 1997 as Minister for Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Relations of the Republic of the Congo with francophone countries and adviser to President Denis Sassou-Nguesso. His service with the Government of the Republic of the Congo included the posts of Minister of Education and Minister of Mining and Energy. He was also a professor at Marien Ngouabi University.

Chairperson Konaré and I are confident that, in view of his rich diplomatic and academic experience, Mr. Adada has the skills and insight required to reinforce the African Union Mission in the Sudan and meet the challenge of establishing and leading the hybrid United Nations-African Union peacekeeping operation in Darfur.

(*Signed*) **Ban** Ki-moon

07-33506 (E) 080507